

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 598

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS USUN 5148

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, SF

SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA PLENARY: APARTHEID

REF: USUN 5147

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FATHER HUPP'S STATEMENT IN EXPLANATION
OF VOTE, PLENARY, NOVEMBER 9:

QUOTE MR. PRESIDENT:

THE UNITED STATES WAS PLEASED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
ADOPTION WITHOUT OBJECTION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L6
ON THE "UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA" AND
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A/31/L7 CONCERNING "SOLIDARITY WITH SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL

PRISONERS."

WE HAVE VOTED AGAINST DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L8 CONCERN-
ING THE "ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA." WE HAVE DONE
SO SINCE WE ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT THE INVOCATION OF CHAPTER
VII OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA
FOR ITS APARTHEID POLICIES IS APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME. WE
OBJECT STRONGLY TO THOSE PARAGRAPHS WHICH ALLEGE THAT THE
UNITED STATES IS SENDING WEAPONS TO SOUTH AFRICA. AS THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY WELL KNOWS, THE UNITED STATES HAS CONTINUED
TO IMPOSE ITS OWN ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA SINCE
1962, AND HAS URGED OTHER NATIONS TO IMPOSE VOLUNTARILY AN
EMBARGO OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. RECENTLY, IT WAS DISCOVERED
THAT A UNITED STATES COMPANY HAD ILLEGALLY SHIPPED ARMS TO
SOUTH AFRICA. THE SHIPMENT WAS MADE AS A RESULT OF MISREPRE-
SENTATION BY A COMPANY EMPLOYEE. THAT EMPLOYEE SUBSEQUENTLY
HAS BEEN PROSECUTED, CONVICTED, AND SENTENCED TO JAIL.
LET ME MAKE THIS CLEAR SO THAT NO ONE DOUBTS THE STRENGTH
OF OUR COMMITMENT. WE HAVE JAILED AN AMERICAN CITIZEN
FOR FACILITATING AN ARMS SHIPMENT TO SOUTH AFRICA. THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS CONTINUING TO
INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF ILLEGAL ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA
INVOLVING AMERICAN ARMS MANUFACTURERS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS VOTED AGAINST DRAFT RESOLUTION
A/31/L9 CONCERNING "RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SOUTH
AFRICA." WE DISAGREE WITH THE DECISION TO SINGLE OUT
ISRAEL FOR CRITICISM OF ITS RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.
WHILE WE DO NOT CONDONE ISRAEL'S MILITARY TRADE WITH SOUTH
AFRICA, WE ARE AWARE THAT OTHER NATIONS ALSO ARE INVOLVED
IN SUCH TRADE. THE APARTHEID COMMITTEE REPORT AND THIS
UNBALANCED RESOLUTION STEM FROM ANTI-ISRAEL POLITICAL
MOTIVES, RATHER THAN FROM ANY DECISION TO INVESTIGATE
IMPARTIALLY THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE TRADING IN MILITARY
MATERIAL WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

THE UNITED STATES HAS ABSTAINED ON DRAFT RESOLUTION
A/31/L10REV.1 CONCERNING, "APARTHEID IN SPORTS." THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE OLYMPIC PRINCIPLE THAT NO
DISCRIMINATION BE ALLOWED IN SPORTING EVENTS ON THE GROUNDS
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OF RACE, RELIGION OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION. WE URGE
UNITED STATES SPORTS TEAMS TO RESPECT THE PRINCIPLE AND TO
COMPETE AGAINST TEAMS WHICH ARE SELECTED ON THE PRINCIPLE
OF THE OLYMPIC IDEAL. BECAUSE UNITED STATES SPORTS TEAMS
ARE ORGANIZED PRIVATELY, AND HAVE NO OFFICIAL SPONSORSHIP
OR REGULATION, WE ARE NOT ABLE TO SUPPORT SEVERAL OF THE
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN RESOLUTION. THESE
RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD HAVE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

INTERVENE IN THE AFFAIRS OF PRIVATE SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH WE LAWFULLY CANNOT DO. THE RESULTS OF THIS RESOLUTION COULD, IN FACT, PROVE CONTRARY TO ITS SPONSORS' INTENTIONS AND, INSTEAD OF BREAKING DOWN APARTHEID, COULD ASSIST TO CONSOLIDATE IT. THIS IS BORNE OUT BY THE EXPERIENCE OF THE LAST FOUR YEARS, WHEN OPEN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION HAS RESULTED IN SOME BREAKING DOWN OF BARRIERS IN SOUTH AFRICA. FOR INSTANCE, ARTHUR ASHE BROKE THE COLOR BARRIER IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN OPEN. HE ENCOURAGED THE SOUTH AFRICAN TENNIS AUTHORITIES TO DESEGREGATE THE AUDIENCE FOR THE OPEN. BLACK TENNIS PLAYERS ALSO WERE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN OTHER MAJOR TENNIS TOURNAMENTS IN THE COUNTRY.

THE UNITED STATES HAS ABSTAINED ON DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L11, CONCERNING THE "PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID" FOR REASONS WHICH WE HAVE ELABORATED ON ELSEWHERE IN THIS STATEMENT.

THE UNITED STATES HAS VOTED AGAINST RESOLUTION A/31/L12, CONCERNING "ECONOMIC COLLABORATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA." IN OUR VIEW, THE DECISION TO IMPOSE A TYPE OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA IS A DECISION OF UTMOST SERIOUSNESS, AND ONLY SHOULD AND CAN BE TAKEN BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. MOREOVER, WE BELIEVE THE FACTS DO NOW WARRANT SUCH A DECISION. WE CANNOT ACCEPT THE THESIS OF THIS RESOLUTION THAT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA WORK TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE POPULATION OR NECESSARILY RESULT IN THEIR EXPLOITATION. ON THE CONTRARY, SOME UNITED STATES CORPORATIONS HAVE BEEN AMONG THE LEADING FORCES FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AND ENLIGHTENED EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES IN SOUTH AFRICA. IT IS TOO SIMPLISTIC TO CONDEMN IN BLANKET FASHION ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

THE UNITED STATES HAS VOTED AGAINST DRAFT RESOLUTION
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A/31/L13, CONCERNING THE "SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA." WE CANNOT AGREE WITH A NUMBER OF PARAGRAPHS IN THE RESOLUTION. SPECIFICALLY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA, HOWEVER ABHORRENT THE POLICIES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, CONSTITUTES A THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE OR SECURITY. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THIS LENGTHY RESOLUTION IS TANTAMOUNT TO A CALL FOR AN UPRISING IN SOUTH AFRICA WHICH WOULD, IN EFFECT, BE A RACIAL BLOODBATH. MY GOVERNMENT CANNOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE THESIS THAT THIS IS THE BEST OR ONLY WAY TO WORK FOR PEACE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE UNITED STATES HAS VOTED "NO" ON DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L14, CONCERNING THE "PROGRAM OF ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID." THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS NOT PREPARED TO SUPPORT A COMPREHENSIVE REGIME OF SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH

AFRICA, WHICH THIS AND OTHER DRAFT RESOLUTIONS HAVE CALLED FOR, NOR TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR A VIOLENT UPRISING IN SOUTH AFRICA. WE ALSO HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ON THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROGRAM OF ACTION AND THE DRAWING OF UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES INTO THIS CLEARLY POLITICAL CAMPAIGN. THE UNITED STATES ALREADY HAS DISCUSSED ITS POSITION TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA, AS SET FORTH BY SECRETARY KISSINGER IN PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 31. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT, ALTHOUGH TIME IS RUNNING OUT, THE OPPORTUNITY STILL EXISTS FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO MOVE AWAY FROM THE APARTHEID SYSTEM PEACEFULLY, AND TO CREATE A JUST SOCIETY WITH FREEDOM FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS.

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT UNQUOTE
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